

SAN FRANCISCO NAVAL SHIPYARD

SAN FRANCISCO 24. CALIFORNIA

IN REPLY REFER TO

143-100

5750

17 SEP 1959

From: Commander, San Francisco Naval Shipyard  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (Op-09B9)

Subj: Command History (OPNAV Report 5750-5); transmittal of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.9, Ser 2455P09B9 of 5 May 1959 - Subj: Command Histories  
(b) 12NDINST 5750.1, ND12-001A of 25 June 1959 - Subj: Command Histories  
(c) BUSHIPSINST 5750.2, Ser 732-31 of 15 July 1959 - Subj: Command Histories

Encl: (1) History of San Francisco Naval Shipyard 1941 - 31 December 1958

1. In accordance with reference (a) a historical report of the background, development and operations of the San Francisco Naval Shipyard from its inception to 31 December 1958 is submitted as enclosure (1). As requested by references (b) and (c), copies of this report are furnished to the Commandant, Twelfth Naval District and the Bureau of Ships by copy of this letter.

*R. I. Palmer*

R. I. PALMER

By direction

Copy to:  
BuShips (Code 732) (w/2 copies encl)  
ComTwelve (w/1 copy of encl)

1943				1945-6			
SHOP	LABOR WHICH CAN BE ADVANTAGEOUSLY USED (WITHOUT SHIFTS)		WORK	SHOP	LABOR WHICH CAN BE ADVANTAGEOUSLY USED (WITHOUT SHIFTS)		WORK
	Men	Women			Men	Women	
X38 Machinists Outside	305	45	1. Limited repair and installation of guns and torpedo tubes 2. Installation and repair (except balancing) of any shipboard machinery	X38 Machinists Outside	850	45	1. Shipboard repair and installation of torpedo tubes and guns of maximum weight of 250 tons 2. Same as 1943
X41 Boiler- makers	40	-	1. Any type of boiler repair 2. Building and repair of pressure vessels & tanks	X41 Boiler- makers	100	-	1. Any type of boiler, condenser, evaporator and heat exchanger repairs 2. Building & repair of pressure vessels & tanks 3. Assembly of any type of boiler 4. Any kind of steel fabrication breeching, boiler foundations, smoke stacks, including stainless steel stacks
X51 Electrical	675	75	1. All types of radio repair; limited radar & sound repair 2. Limited repair to instruments, gages, meters, tachometers, etc. 3. Limited repairs to motors generators, controllers 4. Battery overhaul; limited charging facilities. 5. All types of interior communication equipment repair 6. Rewind and overhaul of all types of transformers.	X51 Electrical	3200	105	1. Unlimited Radio & Radar repairs & installation, and all types of IC repairs and installations. Sonar repairs all types excepting projector heads. 2. All types of instruments, meters, tachometer, watches, typewriters, and gauges up to 10,000 P.S.I. 3. Repairs to motors, generators and controllers of all types excepting full load tests on some motors

1 OCT 1946 - 1 APR 1947

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## REORGANIZATION - U. S. NAVAL BASE, SAN FRANCISCO

In accordance with a SECNAV directive (Serial 29P24, dated 15 January 1947) the U. S. Naval Base, San Francisco, was reorganized, effective 15 February 1947, as detailed below: 1/

The Commandant of Twelfth Naval District assumed duties and title of Commander, U. S. Naval Base, San Francisco, as an additional duty. The Naval Base staff organization was superimposed on the District Headquarters Staff organization to perform corresponding duties on the U. S. Naval Base staff.

Naval Base files remained separate from Twelfth Naval District files to permit ready expansion and operation of the Base under a Deputy Commander

The reorganization of the Base set-up made the Commander, MINS, District Industrial Manager, with staff rating in the Commandant's staff, with duties of co-ordinating work of San Francisco Naval Shipyard and MINS as well as any work assigned to private industrial plants.

For personnel, budgetary, and facilities matters, San Francisco Naval Shipyard continued to coordinate its efforts through the Commander, Mare Island Naval Shipyard, in order to facilitate.

For military matters, closer logistics support of Fleet units at the lower end of the Bay Area, the Shipyard Commander, San Francisco Naval Shipyard, coordinated his efforts through the office of the Commander, U. S. Naval Base, San Francisco; and for technological matters, the Shipyard Commander dealt directly with the Bureau of Ships.

## RADIATION LABORATORY SET-UP

Establishment of the Radiation Laboratory was authorized by the Bureau of Ships on 18 November 1946. Since this date, the Bureau of Ships and the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery jointly outlined broad avenues of research on radiological problems of mutual interest. Ample facilities were made available by the Shipyard; and the laboratory is now in the process of expanding its personnel and laboratory facilities to undertake its assigned tasks.

On 26 February 1947 the Radiation Laboratory was formally established by the Shipyard Commander in Shipyard Order #5-47, dated

1/ Twelfth Naval District Order #2-47; Memorandum #5-47.

26 Feb. 1947, outlining the administrative set-up of the laboratory in relation to the Shipyard organization.

Since details concerning the scope of the Laboratory's research program are classified, no statement concerning them is made.

\*Written by OinC, Radiation Laboratory.

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SEP 45 - SEP 46

U. S. NAVAL SHIPYARD  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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## RADIOACTIVITY DECONTAMINATION OF BIKINI VESSELS

On 5 September 1946, the first group of non-target vessels present at Bikini atoll during the Operations Crossroad and which were used for transportation and monitoring after the Baker-Day bomb drop, arrived at this Naval Shipyard.

The yard, in collaboration with BuShips, BuMed, and scientists from the University of California carried out experimental decontamination procedures. Since procedures were non-existent for decontamination, San Francisco Naval Shipyard, under the direction of the Medical Officer in charge of radiological survey with Joint Task Force One at Bikini, and working with University of California scientific groups began experimental work.\*

Experimental work is still being carried on at this yard. The decontamination procedures proven experimentally are now established as routine procedures and are being carried out on all Crossroads ships.

Decontamination of radioactivity is a classified subject and a discussion of methods is therefore restricted.\*\*

\* Joint Task Force One notice, Ser#079, and  
19 Sept 1946 ltr from Code 180 BuShips to ComSFNS.

\*\* Written by NavOffinC of this radioactivity work.

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QUARTERLY HISTORY

SAN FRANCISCO NAVAL SHIPYARD

For Period of

1 April 1947

through

30 June 1947

## RADIATION LABORATORY

The aircraft carrier INDEPENDENCE, first combat ship to arrive here from the Bikini atomic bomb tests, was towed in and anchored at Buoy Z on 16 June. Her aft port side was caved in, the flight deck tilted, gun tube crushed, and she was otherwise bruised and battered. On June 26, she was brought in and berthed. Work in examination and decontamination is progressing.

## DEPARTURE OF OLD KEARSARGE

The U.S.S. KEARSARGE, formerly a battleship but now the ABL Crane Ship, which had been at this yard since 1945, doing many a heavy hoisting job in the closing months of the war, departed for Terminal Island, taking as cargo the boom from a 350-ton captured German crane. This crane was one of three largest cranes in the world captured and divided, one going to Great Britain, one to Russia, and this one to the United States. It was towed to Terminal Island and the boom shipped here and taken to Terminal Island by the KEARSARGE, to be replaced on the crane.